

Amendment to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1 and 3. These sheets, which includes Figs. 1 and 3, replace the previous sheets including Figs. 1 and 3.

Attachments: 2 Replacement Sheets

2 Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

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REMARKS

Claims 1-10 were pending of which Claims 1, 9 and 10 were rejected and Claims 2-8 were objected to. Claims 2-5, and 9-10 have been amended and Claim 1 has been cancelled.

The Examiner objected to Claims 2-8 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 3, 4, and 5 have been so amended and Claim 1 has been cancelled. Thus, the scope of subject matter in Claims 2-5 has not been narrowed. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended to depend from Claim 5. No new matter has been added.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to Figs. 1 and 3 stating “elements (I), (CC), and (IIIa) do not have functional labels.”

New Figs. 1 and 3 are submitted herewith with functional labels for elements (I), (CC), and (IIIa). No new matter is added.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 was objected to stating the recitation “the circuitry for controlling the current through the output terminals” at line 14 lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 1 has been cancelled, but Claims 2-5 have been amended to include the subject matter from original Claim 1. Applicant points out that originally filed Claim 1, and now Claims 2-5, recite “a control circuit ... equipped with circuitry for controlling the current through the output terminals at a predetermined value, the circuitry for controlling the current through the output terminals”. Thus, “the circuitry” at line 14 does have antecedent basis. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Vinciarelli (4,648,020) (“Vinciarelli”) and under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Popescu (6,487,097) (“Popescu”). Claim 1 has been cancelled. Claim 5, which was indicated as allowable if amended to include the subject matter from Claim 1, has been so amended. Claims 9-10 have been amended to depend from amended independent Claim 5. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-5 and 9-10 have been amended and Claim 1 has been cancelled leaving Claims 2-10 pending. For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 2-10. Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this response, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (408) 982-8202.

**Via Express Mail Label No.
EV 450 194 353 US**

Respectfully submitted,



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